

For some time I have been concerned about the dangers of media consolidation. This highly charged election year is highlighting the very real threat to the open exchange of information. Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the power invested in the hands of corporations by media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.